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THE PRAYER SHAWL

MILTON SCHORR

I well recall my father's shawl,
The one he donned for prayer,
Off-white it was, with stripes of black.
Discolored patches front and back,
From many years of wear.

A simple one of cotton spun,
But when across his shoulders tossed,
A royal robe it could have been,
Of downy ermine genuine,
With appliqués of silver all embossed.

There beneath that tattered shawl
He worshiped from the heart.
From worldly pressures thus released,
He found a calming inner peace,
In private dialogue with God.

